



Continuing On Our Pledge

By Sheikh Ayman al-Zawahiri,
May Allah Protect Him

English Translation

In the name of Allah and all praise is due to Allah. May peace and blessings be upon the Messenger of Allah, his family, his companions, and his allies.

To the Emir of the Believers Mawlawi Haybatullah, may Allah protect him, assist him with the truth and assist the truth through him, and support through him His religion, His Book, and His believing servants: May peace and the mercy and blessings of Allah be upon you. I ask Allah to facilitate for you, your brothers, soldiers, and supporters that which He loves and is pleased with from the honor of the worldly life and the success of the hereafter, and to repel from you every evil in both abodes.

And henceforth: We received the news with great sadness of our loss and the loss of the Muslim Ummah, of the Mujahideen, the muhajireen, and the murabiteen, of our emir, the martyr – as we consider him – Emir of the Believers Mullah Akhtar Muhammad Mansour. May Allah bestow vast mercy upon him, and unite us with him through His blessing and His grace in the highest levels of al-Firdaws, without shame and without changing. He remained steadfast on the truth as a mujahid, murabit, and a leader and emir of the Mujahideen until he met his Lord as a martyr through a crusader drone strike. He achieved the highest rank that the Mujahid desires – the rank of martyrdom in the cause of Allah. He reached this high rank after a life spent in jihad, first against the communist Russians and their helpers, then against the crusader Americans and their allies and followers. A life spent commanding good and forbidding evil alongside his emir and our emir, Mullah Muhammad Umar - may Allah have mercy on them both - and their noble companions. They waged Jihad to cleanse Afghanistan from the evils of oppression, corruption, and

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aggression against the Muslims. He continued on to his Lord after a life spent first establishing and then preserving the Islamic Emirate against its enemies from among the evil and corrupt, against those who sold their souls to the west and the east. He spent his life defending the muhajireen and the oppressed. He stood up for the honor of the Muslims alongside his emir and our emir, Mullah Muhammad Umar – may Allah have mercy on them both – and their noble companions, refusing to hand over any Muslim to a disbeliever.

They persevered like mountains in the face of the tyrannical crusade that wished for them to bow down, announcing that they would not bow to other than Allah, even if that meant sacrificing themselves, their families, their wealth, their dominion, and the rest of their worldly possessions. They struck an example that honored not only this era in the history of the Muslims, but in the history of all free men throughout the entire world. Mullah Akhtar Muhammad Mansour - may Allah have mercy on him – spent his life refusing to accept the agent government in Kabul, maintaining that it is a government of agents created by the American crusaders to occupy the Muslim lands. He spent his life leading his brothers in the Islamic Emirate, looking after their affairs and spending long nights awake, looking after their interests. Then, Allah chose him as a martyr – as we consider him – after that long life of jihad, hijra, enjoining of good, forbidding of evil, and steadfastness in the face of falsehood and treachery. I ask Allah for him to be from those about whom he said: So lose not heart, nor fall into despair: For ye must gain mastery if ye are true in Faith. * If a wound hath touched you, be sure a similar wound hath touched the others. Such days (of varying fortunes) We give to men and men by turns: that Allah may know those that believe, and that He may take to Himself from your ranks Martyr-witnesses (to Truth). And Allah loveth not those that do wrong. * Allah's object also is to purge those that are true in Faith and to deprive of blessing Those that resist Faith. * Did ye think that ye would enter Heaven without Allah testing those of you who fought hard (In His Cause) and remained steadfast? (Aal-i-Imran, 139-142) May Allah have mercy on our emir, the martyr – as we consider him – Mullah Akhtar Muhammad Mansour, the mujahid, the muhajir, the commander of good, the forbiddler of evil, the rejecter of oppression, corruption, and servitude. We are pleased with the judgment of Allah, may He be glorified, and we submit to His might. We ask Him to keep us steadfast on the truth, on His religion, the Sunnah of His Prophet PBUH and on the path of Jihad, through His success and by His grace.

Continuing on the path of jihad and striving to unite the ranks of the Mujahideen, in emulation of our leaders, the righteous martyrs, may Allah have mercy on them - our emir, the Lion of Islam Usama bin Laden, and our brothers Abu Mus'ab al-Zarqawi, Abu Hamza al-Muhajir, Mustafa Abu al-Yazid, Abu Laith al-Libi, Attiyatullah al-Libi, Abu Yahya al-Libi and the rest of the truthful sheikhs of jihad, as we consider them and we do not purify anyone before Allah, I, in my position as leader of al-Qaeda, offer you our pledge of allegiance, renewing the method of Sheikh Usama – may Allah have mercy on him – in calling the Muslim Ummah to aid the Islamic Emirate and to pledge allegiance to it.

We pledge allegiance to you to uphold the Book of Allah and the Sunnah of His Messenger of and to uphold the Sunnah of the Rightly Guided Caliphs, may Allah be pleased with them. We pledge allegiance to you to establish the Sharia until it rules the Muslim lands

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instead of being ruled, leads instead of being led, and until no government surpasses it and no authority disputes with it. We pledge allegiance to you to disavow any legislation, regime, stance, pledge, agreement or covenant that contradicts the Sharia, whether it be a regime within the Muslim lands or outside of them from the regimes, boards and organizations which contradict the Sharia such as the UN and others.

We pledge allegiance to you to liberate every hand span of the Muslim lands from Kashgar to al-Andalus, from the Caucasus to Somalia and Central Africa, from Kashmir to Jerusalem, from the Philippines to Kabul, from Bukhara to Samarkand. We pledge allegiance to you to wage jihad against the leaders that have replaced the Sharia, those who have encroached themselves over the Muslim lands, cancelling the laws of Sharia and forcing the laws of the disbelievers on the Muslims, spreading corruption and depravation, and those who encroached on the Muslims the regime of apostasy and agency, that which despises the Sharia, elevates the creeds of the disbelievers and their philosophers, and submits the Muslim lands and their resources to their enemies.

We pledge allegiance to you to support the oppressed believers wherever they may be. We pledge allegiance to you to command good and forbid evil to the best of our ability. We pledge allegiance to you to defend the Islamic Emirate as long as it leads us by the Book of Allah and the Sunnah of His Messenger PBUH. We pledge allegiance to you to establish the Caliphate upon the prophetic methodology, that which is founded on the choice of the Muslims and their content. That which spreads justice, shura, establishes security, lifts oppression, restores rights and raises the banner of Jihad. We pledge allegiance to you in accordance with all that, and to hear and obey in lawful matters in content or dislike, and in times of difficulty and ease, as much as we are able.

We ask Allah to help us to fulfill our pledge, and to help you in carrying out your burdens. Our master the Emir of the Believers Mawlawi Haibatullah, may Allah protect you and look after you: Allah has honored you as He honored your two predecessors, Emir of the Believers Mullah Muhammad Umar and Emir of the Believers Mullah Akhtar Muhammad Mansour – may Allah have mercy on them both – along with the Islamic Emirate with waging jihad against the Russian invaders and their communist allies. Then Allah favored you to establish the first legitimate Emirate since the fall of the Ottoman Caliphate. There is no Emirate present on earth equal to it, waging Jihad, commanding good, forbidding evil and establishing Sharia. The Mujahideen and muhajireen felt its truthfulness and sincerity, so they pledged allegiance to it, as did the revivalist Imam Usama bin Laden, who called the Muslims to pledge their allegiance to it and announced that his pledge to the Islamic Emirate was the major pledge of allegiance. All those who pledged allegiance to Usama bin Laden and al-Qaeda are included in his pledge of allegiance to the Islamic Emirate. Allah SWT then honored you with standing in the face of the crusade. He honored you with protecting and defending your brothers the muhajireen, sacrificing your dominion, authority, your selves and your wealth to protect them. That is the grace of Allah that He bestows on whom He wills. Verily, your brothers and sons the Muslims today face international aggression that aims to uproot Islam and corrupt the Muslims, from Kashgar to Tangier, and from the peaks of the Caucasus to Central Africa. In the middle of these

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calamities, wars and injustices poured out against them, the Muslims look to the Islamic Emirate as the fortress of Islam and the refuge of the Muslims, so seek refuge in Allah, the possessor of power and greatness, and act according to their positive opinion. In closing, I ask Allah to increase you in obedience to Him, establishing His Sharia, supporting His allies, and waging Jihad against his enemies. We are your soldiers, your supporters, and a battalion from your battalions, and Allah, the Magnificent spoke the truth: “**And for those who fear Allah, He (ever) prepares a way out, and He provides for him from (sources) he never could imagine**”. (At-Talaq, 2-3)

**Your Brother,
Ayman al-Zawahiri,
Emir of al-Qaeda**

Done on the twentieth of Shaban for the year one-thousand four-hundred and thirty-seven